

Message Text

PAGE 01 THE HA 04558 091531Z

64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

EB-07 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /082 W

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R 091453Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6618

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

USNMR SHAPE

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4558

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, NL

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REDUCTIONS IN NETHERLANDS ARMED FORCES

REF: (A) STATE 198550; (B) THE HAGUE 4258;
(C) THE HAGUE 4387; (D) THE HAGUE 4448

1. SUMMARY: US EFFORTS TO BRING HOME TO GON SERIOUSNESS OF PROPOSED DEFENSE REDUCTIONS SEEM AT THIS POINT TO HAVE HAD MIXED RESULTS. WHILE OUR OWN REPRESENTATIONS IN BRUSSELS AND THE HAGUE HAVE CLEARLY REGISTERED, ONLY BELGIUM SEEMS TO HAVE USED STRONG LANGUAGE. MUTED EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN BY OTHERS, AND ABSENCE OF ANY REACTION FROM KEY NATO COUNTRIES HAVE LEFT IMPRESSION THAT MOST NATO COUNTRIES VIEW PROPOSED CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 THE HA 04558 091531Z

DUTCH REDUCTIONS AS NOT ALL THAT SERIOUS AND IN ANY CASE PROBABLE FAIT ACCOMPLI. END SUMMARY.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 8, DUYVERMAN, HEAD

OF MILITARY COOPERATION SECTION IN NATO DIRECTORATE OF FONOFF, SAID THAT GON HAD RECEIVED STRONG DEMARCHES ON PROPOSED FORCE REDUCTIONS ONLY FROM U.S. AND BELGIUM. THESE DEMARCHES WERE SUPPORTED BY NATO SYG AND MILITARY STAFF, BUT OTHER ALLIES HAD BEEN ALMOST SILENT.

3. PRACTICALLY LAMENTING PAUCITY OF STRONG REPRESENTATIONS FROM ALL ALLIES ON THIS SUBJECT, DUYVERMAN SAID THAT BELGIAN AND U.S. DEMARCHES HAD BEEN EFFECTIVELY MADE AT HIGH LEVELS IN BRUSSELS AND IN THE HAGUE. EMBOFF COMMENTED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD SEVERAL OTHER ALLIES, PARTICULARLY NORWEGIANS AND DANES, HAD ALSO MADE DEMARCHES. GON OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGED THIS BUT SAID THEY HAD NOT BEEN VERY FORCEFUL. PARTICULARLY NOTICEABLE, HE SAID, WAS ABSENCE OF UK AND FRG PRESSURE ON GON ON PROPOSED REDUCTIONS.

4. DUYVERMAN REMARKED THAT HE WAS IN PROCESS OF PREPARING A MEMORANDUM FOR SEPTEMBER 9 MEETING OF DUTCH DEFENSE COUNCIL ON ALLIED REACTIONS TO PROPOSED REDUCTIONS. HE PLANNED MAKE MOST OF US/BELGIAN OPPOSITION AND SAID HE WOULD INCLUDE WHAT HE COULD FROM OTHER APPROACHES. COMMENTING AGAIN THAT MFA HAD EXPECTED STRONG BRITISH AND GERMAN DEMARCHES, HE SAID HE WOULD INCLUDE COMMENT ON MASON/PEIJNENBURG MEETING AND PERHAPS AN OBSERVATION THAT UK AND FRG OPPOSITION WOULD LIKELY ALSO SURFACE.

5. COMMENT: DUYVERMAN'S COMMENTS CLEARLY INDICATED HIS HOPE, AND PRESUMABLY THAT OF OTHERS IN HIS MINISTRY, THAT ALLIED REACTIONS TO DUTCH PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE BEEN LOUD AND CLEAR, AND MOST OF ALL ACROSS THE BOARD. THE TONE OF HIS REMARKS SUPPORTED IMPRESSION LEFT BY VAN EEKELEN THAT DUTCH ANNOUNCEMENT IN NATO MAY NOT BE FINAL WORD AND THAT PERHAPS SOME ROOM COULD BE FOUND TO KEEP AT LEAST NEPTUNES IN AIR A WHILE LONGER.
GOULD

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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